

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON CHILD CARE



Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

October, 2011

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2011

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A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

IC 12-17.2-3.3, establishing the Committee on Child Care, was enacted in P.L. 126-2007. IC 12-17.2-3.3-5 specifies the Committee responsibilities as follows:

Sec. 5. (a) The committee shall:

- (1) study the system of child care regulation; and
- (2) report and make recommendations concerning the system of child care regulation to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 not later than October 31 of each year.

(b) The committee's recommendations under subsection (a) must further the following child care regulation purposes:

- (1) To provide support for families in need of reliable, high quality child care.
- (2) To encourage and support high quality child care providers.
- (3) To allow for a variety of methods of child care provision and allow each family to determine the method preferred for the family's children.
- (4) To promote access to available and affordable child care by parents.
- (5) To encourage the state to access all available federal funds for child care.

(c) The committee's program of study must include consideration of the following:

- (1) The effect of child care and child care regulation on families.
- (2) Encouragement of high quality child care.
- (3) Issues related to the child care workforce, including job satisfaction, compensation, and turnover.
- (4) A review of child care models.
- (5) Ensuring the safety of children.
- (6) Any need for reorganization and refocusing of governmental agencies responsible for regulation of child care.
- (7) Parental rights.

II. INTRODUCTION AND REASONS FOR STUDY

Current Indiana law provides for licensure and registration of various types of child care providers, including child care homes, child care centers, and child care ministries. Licensure and registration are not required for certain child care homes. Other requirements apply to child care providers that receive payment for child care under the federal Child Care and Development Fund program administered under 45 CFR 98 and 45 CFR 99, regardless of licensure or registration.

The Committee was formed to further the statutory purpose of supporting quality child care and assisting families by improving access to and choice of child care providers. Advisory committees concerning child care homes and child care centers were formed as a result of legislation passed in 2007. The purposes of the advisory committees are to advise the Division of Family Resources concerning child care regulation specific to the type of child care provider represented by the advisory committee, and to annually report to the Committee.

III. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Committee met three times during the 2011 interim.

First Meeting

The first meeting of the Committee was held on August 25, 2011. The Committee considered testimony concerning the following:

- (1) Updates from the Bureau of Child Care (BCC) of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) and interested parties concerning:
 - (A) Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), including the waiting list, funding, and eligibility requirements.
 - (B) Implementation and evaluation of the Paths to Quality program (PTQ).
 - (C) Child care quality projects implemented with the assistance of American Recovery and Revitalization Act (ARRA) funding.
- (2) Reports from representatives of the child care home and child care center advisory committees.
- (3) A report from a representative of the unlicensed registered child care ministry advisory group.
- (4) An update from the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) concerning the Sunny Start program.
- (5) An update from the Indiana Department of Education concerning programs affecting children from birth to age five.

- (6) Updates on activities of the Indiana Association of Child Care Resource and Referral, the Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children, the United Way of Central Indiana, and the Military Child Care Liaison Initiative.

Second Meeting

The second meeting of the Committee was held on September 27, 2011. Following visits of the Committee members to child care provider facilities, the Committee discussed their impressions of each child care facility visited.

Third Meeting

The third meeting of the Committee was held on October 25, 2011. The Committee considered the following:

- (1) Proposed legislation.
- (2) The final report of the Committee.

IV. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Minutes and attachments containing more detailed information concerning the Committee's 2011 interim work may be found at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/interim/>

The Committee heard testimony from representatives of the following groups:

- (1) Bureau of Child Care of the Family and Social Services Administration.
- (2) The Division of Family Resources child care advisory committees.
- (3) The Division of Family Resources unlicensed registered child care ministry advisory group.
- (4) Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children.
- (4) Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral.
- (5) Indiana State Department of Health.
- (6) Indiana Department of Education.
- (7) United Way of Central Indiana.
- (8) Military Child Care Liaison Initiative.
- (9) Other interested parties.

Annual Updates

The Committee heard updates concerning child care related activities of various state agencies and community organizations. The members requested and received additional information based on the testimony.

Child Care Facility Visits

The Committee visited 4 child care facilities of various types. The members discussed their impressions of the child care facilities.

V. COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee makes no findings of fact.

The Committee recommends, by a roll call vote of 7-0, that Preliminary Draft 3187-2012 (requiring the Bureau of Child Care to establish a child care ministry advisory committee) be introduced for consideration during the 2012 session of the General Assembly.

WITNESS LIST

Melanie Brizzi, Bureau of Child Care, Family and Social Services Administration
Judith Ganser, M.D., Indiana State Department of Health
Jean Casmir Hill, Unlicensed Registered Child Care Ministry Advisory Group
Carol Johnson, Child Care Center Advisory Committee, Division of Family Resources
Dana Jones, Indiana Department of Education
Ted Maple, United Way of Central Indiana
Jillian Ritter, Military Child Care Liaison Initiative
Joey Scherschel, Child Care Home Advisory Committee, Division of Family Resources
Marsha Thompson, Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral
Dianna Wallace, Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children